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GROSSGLOCKNER ALPINE ROAD TO BE WIDENED

The Grossglockner Alpine Road is one of the most spectacular alpine crossings. In traversing the Alps it connects the Austrian Provinces of Salzburg and Carinthia, and reach-



Grossglockner Alpine Road: Part of summit section toward Mittertoerl tunnel.

es its summit of 8,215 ft. at the 1020 ft. long Hochtort tunnel. The road's attraction is its 6 mile long extension to the famous glacier "Pasterze", right at the foot of the Grossglockner (12,460 ft.). From parking areas, such as Freiwandack (7,772 ft.), mountain hotels and restaurants, such as the Franz Josefs Haus (7,933 ft.), the motorists enjoy magnificent views of alpine mountain peaks and glaciers. From the Edelweisspitze (8,435 ft.), to which a special branch road was built, 37 peaks and 19 glaciers can be seen. The mountain village of Hellenblut (4,268 ft.) with its famous 470 years old gothic church is another favorite tourist attraction.

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SOUTH TYROL DISAPPOINTED

South Tyrolean political circles have registered great disappointment and discouragement over the policy declaration of the new Italian government of Prime Minister Fanfani. While the South Tyroleans admit that Fanfani during an earlier tenure had shown more understanding for their needs than other Italian chiefs of government, they are not at all happy. They remember, too, that Fanfani's 1958 proposal for a top level meeting with Austrian Chancellor Raab was followed up by the fatal "non-enforcement regulations" for the construction of homes in the South Tyrol. In his government declaration, the South Tyroleans said, Fanfani had given no new arguments which might allay the fears of the South Tyrolean ethnic group and guarantee its future security.

AUSTRIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The following remarks, in abstract form, are taken from an article in the Wiener Zeitung by Dr. Franz Gschnitzer, State Secretary in the Austrian Foreign Ministry. Ed.)

Collaboration in international organizations always is connected with certain problems. These exist for all members but particularly so for a neutral nation such as Austria. Contrary opinions of some outsiders notwithstanding, it is not a fact that neutrality is particularly comfortable because it might avoid disagreeable decisions or because a neutral nation need not show its colors. The neutral state is often put face to face with responsible and difficult decisions because unlike nations which belong to blocs or groups, it must reach them on its own without leaning on others. Even when such a neutral state decides to abstain during a vote, this is not an attempt to evade making a decision but an acknowledgement that neutrality in a given case keeps this state from signifying its assent or dissent. However, the neutral state will consider such abstention an exception, because it would make little sense to join an international organization with the idea of not taking an active part in its decisions.

Austria's position in the Hungarian question at the UN shows that it did not evade making a decision. When the question was debated, Austria not only voted for a number of resolutions but also moved one of its own; only in the vote on one single motion did it abstain. Austria even voted for the resolution of September 13, 1957 which sharply condemned the behavior of the Soviet Union. Similarly, Austria voted in favor of the numerous resolutions during the Suez crisis.

During the 1959 General Assembly, Austria participated very actively in the debates on resolutions for the banning of atomic weapons tests and was not afraid to vote against the French atomic weapons tests in the Sahara.

But abstain or vote for or against, no doubt can exist that Austria works honestly and hard in the United Nations as well as in other international organizations. And this work is not limited to the votes in plenary sessions. Austria works equally hard in the less spectacular, but often more important committees. Here Austria believes that the neutral state often has

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**THE AUSTRIAN MINORITY IN ITALY
ON THE AGENDA OF THE U.N.**
for detailed report see page 2.

THE CASE OF THE AUSTRIAN MINORITY BEFORE THE U. N.

The failure of the Austrian-Italian negotiations has caused increasing bitterness among the South Tyrolean population. They have come to feel cheated out of the right of self-administration assured them by the Paris Agreement.

The South Tyroleans are an extremely vital and fertile ethnic group. Italian administrative practice, however, endangers their national existence in their homeland; prejudicial practices of the employment offices prevent the South Tyroleans from obtaining work, and of the apartments constructed with state assistance in the South Tyrol since the end of World War II so far only 7% have been made available to the indigenous population.

This gross and unreasonable bias forces young South Tyroleans to emigrate in ever increasing numbers. As a consequence, the South Tyrol presents a very serious social and economic, as well as a national problem.

It is a particularly tragic aspect of the Italian practice that South Tyroleans, when facing a judge, can only in the rarest of cases defend themselves in their mother tongue; only five German-speaking South Tyrolean judges are among those entrusted with the administration of justice for nearly a quarter million people.

The freely elected representatives of the South Tyroleans in the Italian parliament — in order to establish satisfactory conditions in their province — offered the Italian parliament a draft law for the creation of a genuine self-administration

In their draft they demand the right of self-administration, quoting the Paris Agreement. Yet aside, from the text of this highly relevant document, this is, of course, a right which fully corresponds to internationally recognized democratic principles. In detail, the draft provides for the creation of an autonomous region of the South Tyrol; for the untrammelled use of the mother tongue in public life; consideration for public service positions proportionate to the South Tyroleans' numerical strength, as well as an equitable distribution of general employment opportunities and public housing.

The Austrian Federal Government supports these efforts, because only autonomy for the Province of Bozen, the historic homeland of the South Tyroleans, can be considered a genuine fulfillment of the agreements reached between Austria and Italy. Regrettably, the Italian Government has never negotiated with the South Tyrolean representatives on this draft law.

In his letter to Chancellor Raab of May 18, 1960, Italian Prime Minister Tambroni proposed that — in the event of failure of bilateral negotiations — the question of the implementation of the Paris Agreement should be referred to the International Court of Justice.

This proposal was unacceptable to the Austrian Government for the following reasons:

As the preceding remarks demonstrate, the Italian concept, according to which the problem of the South Tyrol is merely one of interpretation and implementation of the Gruber-De

Gasperi Agreement — in other words, a purely legal question — does not bear examination. There was a South Tyrolean question ever before the Paris Agreement was signed; it has existed ever since the South Tyrol's separation from Austria; it is a result of the official Italian policy vis-a-vis the Austrian minority throughout that period; its roots stem from political decisions, such as the Peace Treaty of St. Germain (1919), the agreement between Hitler and Mussolini (1939), and the Italian Peace Treaty (1947). Even the Gruber-De Gasperi Agreement resulted ultimately from a political constellation. In Austria's view, the Paris Agreement is, above all, an important document designed to render a measure of indemnification to the South Tyroleans for the oppressive regime to which they had been subjected during the Fascist Era and to secure their existence within the Italian State.

Thus the South Tyrol problem, being first and foremost a political one, it is primarily the United Nations to which it should be referred. Article 14 of the Charter expressly states that the peaceful solution of any question which is deemed likely to impair the friendly relations between nations, is the responsibility of the United Nations General Assembly. In the opinion of the Austrian Government, the situation in the South Tyrol is serious enough to merit the Assembly's immediate attention.

While it may be true that the South Tyroleans enjoy some of the constitutional guarantees assured them — they have, for example, their own representatives, their own press and their own schools, as well as freedom of speech, it is equally beyond dispute that every year a large number of South Tyroleans are forced out of their native country, simply because they can find neither jobs nor homes. This is so, because, as we have pointed out, the Italian administration favors Italians above South Tyroleans with regard to employment and housing and thus promotes migration. There are restrictive government practices, such as the prohibition of public gatherings, which makes a mockery of the freedom of assembly; and there are such measures as the injunction against implementation of the law against the urbanization of the townships of Bozen and Meran — a measure which in fact promotes the migration of the Italian-speaking element in to these communities and thus deprives the South Tyroleans of their historic urban centres. Efforts are currently under way to repeal the urbanization law altogether. Moreover, the Italian policy has resulted in a permanent government crises in the South Tyrol, already lasting one and a half years. It is thus not surprising that the South Tyroleans are now persuaded that their only way out of this permanent crisis which to them is a crisis of survival as a distinct ethnic entity is a genuine and fair statute based on constitutionally guaranteed self-government and self-administration.

This is an essential and indeed irreducible requirement, be it only for the fact that the South Tyroleans have come to doubt Italy's good will in this matter or perhaps Italy's ability

VIENNA HOST TO MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Austria's capital will be the scene of a European Management Conference to be held September 19 to 23 by the International Rationalization Organization of Geneva. Economic and business leaders will gather in Vienna to be instructed in business management which nowadays is considered an important factor in Europe's fast growing and increasingly integrated economy.

U.S.A.F. SURGEON GENERAL IN VIENNA

Maj. Gen. Oliver K. Niess, surgeon general of the United States Air Forces, announced in Washington that he will attend the Sixth International Congress for Thorax Diseases, meeting in Vienna August 28 through September 1. Gen. Niess, one of the leading authorities on outer space medicine, will deliver a lecture on the medical problems posed by man's desire to conquer space.

FAIRS HAVE AN AFFAIR AT DORNBIRN

The working committee of Austrian Fairs met recently in Dornbirn during the 1960 Textile Trade Fair. Members exchanged experiences with the officers of the Dornbirn fair administration. The president of the Dornbirn exhibition reported on advertising and public relations efforts. Committee members showed great interest in the work of the information division which recently started to list all buyers' business addresses with a view of keeping these important visitors informed of trade news between the fairs.

AUSTRIAN EXHIBITS IN EIGHT FOREIGN FAIRS

In order to keep its business contacts with various foreign countries, Austria will participate in eight foreign fairs during August and September with massive group exhibitions. Altogether 434 Austrian firms will take part in these exhibits at the following fairs: Seventh International Fair in Damascus, Syria-United Arab Republic, August 15 to September 10; the Izmir (Turkey) Fair, August 20 to September 20; International Autumn Fair in Frankfurt, West Germany, August 28 to September 1; International Fair in Leipzig, East Germany, September 4 to 11; International Fair in Bruenn, Czechoslovakia, September 11 to 25; International Fair in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, September 10 to 25; the Bozen, South Tyrol,

SOUTH TYROL (Continued from preceding page)

to guarantee such protection within the present framework.

There is an ever increasing demand for self-determination in the South Tyrol. The responsibility for this development can in no way be laid at the Austrian Government's doorstep.

In view of this very serious situation the Austrian Government animated by the desire to contain what might become a speeding conflict of serious proportion has decided to submit the case of the South Tyrol to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

In a note of the Austrian Permanent Representative of July 6, the Secretary-General has been requested to include into the agenda of this year's Assembly the question of the Austrian Minority in Italy.

Fair, September 16 to 26; and the Nineteenth International Sample Fair in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, September 18 to October 2.

In addition, Austrian Information exhibits will be placed on the grounds of the St. Eriks Fair in Stockholm, Sweden, August 31 to September 11; the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto August 24 to September 10; and the International Fair in Thessaloniki, Greece, September 4 to 25.

GROSSGLOCKNER (Cont'd from page 1)

The road was designed and built by Franz Wallack. Construction was started in 1930 and finished in 1935. The number of tourists has steadily increased. The following figures are available for the period from May 9 to December 11, 1958:

Visitors	close to 1,000,000
Passenger cars	211,500
Buses	8,730
Motorcycles	34,880
Trucks	1,200

To accomodate the growing traffic the road is being widened from its original width of 19.7 ft. to 24.6 ft. New and bigger parking areas are being built. Among them a five story parking facility at Freiwandack, which will accomodate 1,000 cars.



Route of
Grossglockner
Alpine Road

The Grossglockner Alpine Road including the extension and branch road is 36 miles long. It has a black top, an average grade of 10% with a maximum of 12%. It is a turnpike and the toll is \$0.80 per person with a minimum of \$2.40 charged per passenger automobile.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (Cont'd from p. 1)

the mission of the mediator who, because he does not mix into the fight of the major powers, is considered an impartial judge. That Austria's permanent representative at the United Nations, Ambassador Franz Matsch, was elected chairman of the Assembly's political committee, shows how honorably Austria has fulfilled that role.

ECONOMIC BRIEFS

SWEDA, the Swedish-American Cash Register Manufacturing Co., recently opened a branch in Vienna which will operate as an immediate subsidiary of the Sweda Co. of Switzerland in Zurich. The firm makes a whole line of products, including combination cash registers, adding machines, office equipment, computers and large data-processing machinery.

Austria's crude oil production amounted last year to 2,458,784 tons. During the same period, natural gas output reached a record high with 1,128,000,000 cubic meters, an increase of 37.5%. (One cubic meter equals 1.308 cubic yards. Ed.) Other production increases included kerosene 52%, gas oil 5%, lubricating oils 15% and bitumen 4%. During the same period consumption of petroleum products went up 15%.

Representative of Austrian business firms have recently visited many retail and department stores in the Caribbean area to help local merchants set up separate departments for the sale of Austrian goods.

Austrian investment in agriculture between 1955 and 1959 amounted to 7,270,000,000 schillings. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) Of this amount, nearly three billion was invested in tractors, and more than four billion schillings in other mechanical equipment. Austrian farms were among Europe's most highly mechanized with some 113,000 tractors on the first of the year.

The proportion of farmers in Austria's population has changed drastically over the past 80 years: 1880-45.3%; 1910-31%; 1934-27.2%; 1951-21.9%.

Automation appeared to be going apace in Austria during the past decade to judge by the demand for technical and clerical workers as opposed to so-called operative workers, including largely unskilled workers. Between 1950 and 1959, the number of "operatives" in industry rose by only a third, while that of skilled technical and clerical workers increased by two-thirds.

Austria now has 400,000 primary telephone subscribers. Because of the expansion of its automatic system, only 1,700 operators are needed to assist the public. Under the old manual system 10,300 employees were needed for the same purpose. The Austrian government-operated telephone service plans further expansion and improvement costing roughly four billion schillings for the period from 1961 through 1971. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) The system is fast growing and needs constant attention. In the past six years alone, 125,000 new subscribers were serviced. Revenue from the telephone operation - without any change in charges - has increased from 623 million schillings in 1953 when the automatic system was first installed to slightly over one billion schillings last year.

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may be quoted freely.

Source need not be given.

RUBBER DISPLACES LEATHER

The Austrian leather industry had troubles in recent years for a variety of reasons, not least among them that in certain manufacturing processes it is being replaced by rubber, industrial circles reported.

During the existing boom, leather has not kept pace with many other products. While there is no "crisis" in the leather industry, not all is well, either. As a whole the industry is fairly stable with an average annual production of 24 million kilograms (one kilogram equals 2.2 English pounds. Ed.), but a great change has taken place in the use of leather and with this in the price of leather.

Production of leather for shoe soles has decreased from about 5 million kilograms to 3.3 million during the past few years while leather used for uppers has experienced a slight increase. The shoe industry, as a whole, buys between 70 and 80% of all manufactured leather; it has doubled its production in recent years. In its manufacturing processes, however, rubber and synthetic materials have been widely substituted for leather. This resulted in a far-reaching change in the leather industry which had to meet increased demands for leather used in uppers and while there was hardly any demand for leather used in soles and heels.

Fast change-overs were not often possible, because the required machinery was not always immediately available. In addition, new methods had to be found to make the change profitable to the leather manufacturer.

Outside the shoe leather branch, however, the Austrian leather business is considered healthy enough.

ELECTRIC ENERGY PRODUCTION

During the current year, Austria's production of electric energy is expected to increase by about 100 million kilowatt hours. This is considered a relatively minor gain, explained by experts from the fact that only a portion of the new power plant in Korneuburg can become operative this year. The increase in production will become more rapid again in the years from 1961 through 1964 when a whole series of new powerplants will start operations in many parts of the country.

LD STEEL PLANT FOR BRAZIL

VOeEst (United Austrian Steel) recently obtained an order for the construction of an LD (Oxygen Blower System) steel plant in Brazil. The plant is to be erected as part of the massive steel production system of the Companhia Siderurgica Paulista near Santos.

The Santos firm has contracted for the erection of a number of related plants, furnaces, cokeries and rolling mills with several American and European firms. The LF steel plant was contracted for with a French-Austrian combine, consisting of the steel construction firm of Delattre & Frouard, and the engineering concern of Cetig and VOeEST. VOeEST will be responsible for the full planning in the use of LD steel and will deliver the two LD crucibles of 75 tons each as well as other installations. The plant is to have an initial annual capacity of 500,000 tons.

AUSTRIA'S OIL SUPPLY

Oil as one of the prime supplies of energy has greatly increased in use during recent years in most countries, Austria included. Oil products and natural gas now amount to about 26% of Austrian demands for energy, a meteoric rise as against 3% in 1929 and 8% in 1937. The reason for this fabulous change is, of course, the successful search for oil and natural gas inside Austria.

Although the first oil was discovered in the Vienna basin in 1930 and the first well which paid off was put into operation in 1934, the Austrian oil industry hardly made a dent in the total energy picture until the beginning of World War II. However, during the war, large-scale exploitation of Austrian oil deposits began in earnest. A number of new fields were discovered, and such deposits as those in Geiselberg, St. Ulrich, Aderklaa, Maustrenk, Hohenrappersdorf and Muehlberg were opened to operation between 1938 and 1944. By the end of 1944, a total 1,213,000 tons of crude oil had been extracted.

After the end of World War II, the Soviet occupying authorities took over the oil enterprises as former German properties and began to dismantle the installations. But after some initial work, they reconstructed the plants and refineries and put them all under one roof — as it were — of the Soviet Mineral Oil Administration. During the Soviet tenure, some minor oil deposits were discovered as well as Central Europe's largest oil field at Matzen. This was in 1949. Three years later, Austria's largest natural gas field was found at Zwerndorf.

Under the State Treaty of 1955, all oil and gas fields and operations were returned to Austrian jurisdiction and became the property of the new Republic of Austria. In payment for these installations, Austria agreed to deliver to the Soviet Union a total of 10 million tons of crude oil. However, a reduction to a total of 6.5 million tons was negotiated in 1958.

Improvements Made by Austrian Petroleum Administration

Large sums of money have been spent by the Austrian Petroleum Administration in the nearly five years since it took over the oil and gas enterprises from the Soviet authorities. Much of it went into research, location of new oil deposits and gas sources. New pumping stations, pipelines and storage tanks were built. New installations and refineries were erected. The Soviets had paid little attention to the exploitation of natural gas. When the Austrians took over again, they completely revised the system of extracting natural gas and bringing it to the consumer. New central plants and compressor stations were built, among other places, in Auersthal and Aderklaa.

Wastage of natural gas was extremely large during the time of the Soviet administration — nearly 40% of the total production. Through the use of more modern methods, this loss has been reduced to the minimum and output has been greatly increased. Supplies to consumers were more than doubled in those five years. While in 1955, supplies amounted to 455 million cubic meters, they reached just over one billion cubic meters by the end of 1959. (One cubic meter equals 1.308 cubic yards, Ed.)

Today the Austrian oil industry comprises three principal undertakings:

1. The Austrian Petroleum Administration

It is Austria's largest oil enterprise — a nationalized property. It owns four crude oil producing units at Aderklaa, Matzen-Auersthal, Muehlberg and Neusiedl, and the refineries at Schwechat, Moosbierbaum and Korneuburg. It also leases a fourth refinery at Lobau. In addition, the Administration runs all the drilling and production stations of natural gas, and a number of supplementary projects.

The Administration's 1959 oil output amounted to 2.3 million tons, that of gas — as mentioned above — 1,117,000,000 cubic meters. The refineries have a capacity of 1.8 million tons of crude oil yearly.

In order to cut down on overhead and transportation costs, a large new refinery is under construction at Schwechat with a capacity of 1.6 million tons yearly.

2. The Crude Oil Extraction Company

This is a subsidiary of the American Mobil Oil Corp. and the British Shell Corp. It has an oil field near Zistersdorf and smaller deposits at Puchkirchen and Ried in Upper Austria. Its crude oil production in 1959 was 130,230 tons.

3. Richard K. Van Sickle's Deep Drilling Company

This firm has a small oil field at Neusiedl on the Zaya which produced 26,558 tons of crude oil during 1959.

* * *

Among the refineries not owned or operated by the Austrian Petroleum Administration are the Floridsdorf plant, owned by Shell, with an annual capacity of 200,000 tons and the Kagrán plant, owned by Mobil Oil, with a yearly output of 180,000 tons. Van Sickle has a small refinery at Neusiedl and another independent producer has one at Kledering.

CHANGE IN THE PACKAGING INDUSTRY

During the years from 1954 to 1959, the production value of the Austrian packaging industry has risen by 64% to a total of 2.4 billion schillings (about 26 schillings equal one dollar, Ed.) The largest increase took place in the plastics sector (13.2%). Iron and steel followed with 116%, paper and cardboard with 77%, glass with 65% and wood with 16%. Production of textile packaging materials decreased by 27%, however. These figures, experts said, show considerably wider use of planned packaging as well as improved quality. Packaging materials which protect the merchandise and have an interesting optical effect in addition are in growing demand.

TREND IN THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY: SYNTHETIC FIBERS GAINING

At a press conference given at the recent Dornbirn Textile Trade Fair, the director of the Hoechst Dye Works, Ohliger, declared that the year 1959 saw new records made and broken in the use of fully synthetic fibers. World consumption of textile fibers of all kinds rose by about 14.6 million tons or about 8% over 1958, he said. Not counting the countries belonging to the Eastern bloc, consumption amounted to more than 10 million tons. In comparison with 1958, the increase was 4% or 6.6 million tons for cotton; 12% or 1.1 million tons for wool; 12% or 2.1 million tons for rayon and cellular wool; and 41% or 550,000 tons for fully synthetic fiber. Thus, he said, chemistry produced about 26% of the textile fibers used.

CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS STILL IN BOOM

The National Association of Austrian Building Trades reported in its survey of the second quarter of 1960, that construction activities continued to flourish and that existing capacities have been fully exploited. As early as last May, the trade reached seasonal highs which in past years were not achieved till July or August. The building boom embraced the entire construction sector, including public and private construction, road building, housing and associated trades.

The situation was so favorable that it has led to a labor shortage in all of Austria in these trades.

STEEL A MAJOR EXPORT ITEM

Fifty-three percent of all Austrian rolled steel products was sent abroad last year. This included such items as heavy sheets, coils and rolled medium-weight sheets. The strong export trend is continuing and has caused some concern because of the possibility of short domestic supplies.

Austria's now well-known oxygen blower-converter steel manufacturing process, called the L-D method, is being introduced increasingly by various member nations of the European Coal and Steel Community, officials noted in a recent review.

OTHER STEEL NOTES

United Austrian Steel (VOeEST) recently placed an order with the Weser Shipyards in Bremen for another ocean-going ore carrier. The vessel, of 16,000 tons and with a speed of better than 15 knots, will serve to transport coking coal from the United States. The new vessel to be called the "Wienertor" will join the "Linzertor" in VOeEST service. When not in use as an ore carrier, the new ship will be used to carry new automobiles. The new vessel will be constructed from L-D steel as was the "Linzertor."

VOeEST recently added a new lime kiln to its plant. This new unit, part of United Austrian Steel's expansion program, has a maximum daily output of 180 tons and will raise total output to 270 tons.

The firm has already delivered the first of a major order of steel converters to Britain. One delivered last April, weighed 39 tons. Three more of 100 tons each are now being produced by VOeEST for the steel plant at Ebbw Vale, South Wales.

Austrian-Alpine Steel Corp. announced that last year's net sales amounted to more than four billion schillings, 20% of which was in exports. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) The company employs more than 31,000 persons.

Simmering-Graz-Pauker Corp. recently delivered four pouring cranes to the Swedish steel plant at Oexelsund. The firm is also filling a Chilean order for a number of pre-carrying railroad freight cars. This is a reorder, following delivery of 50 such cars in the past five months. The firm's foreign business was further enhanced by an order from the North Western Railroad of Pakistan for steel sheet processing machinery.

Simmering-Graz-Pauker showed its new cruiser aircraft M222 at the recent German Aviation Show in Hanover.

Four Kaplan type turbines, capable of producing 100,000 horsepowers each, were just ordered by the Austrian Danube Power Works Corporation for its Danube power station at Aschach.

HALF OF AUSTRIA'S SKI PRODUCTION EXPORTED

Almost 50% of Austria's total manufacture of skis and ski equipment was exported to foreign markets in 1959, latest figures show. Total production amounted to 48.4 million schillings in that year. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) Austria's main purchasers in this sector were the United States, West Germany, Switzerland, Canada and Italy. In addition, 100 million schillings worth of skiing accessories, including shoes and clothing, was exported during 1959.

Earlier this year, a new type of ski made of "Epoxiharz" — a resinous plastic — was announced by one of Austria's top ski manufacturers, Franz Kneissl of Kufstein, Tyrol. The new material which is more pliable than metal yet as solid as metal is to be used where metal has proved inadequate. Kneissl's firm will introduce this new type of ski in all lines previously based on wood.

EFFECTS OF THE 45-HOUR WEEK

The effects of the 45-hour week are shown most clearly in the development of the labor situation, according to a recent survey. In March, 1958, industrial employment embraced 482,000 persons — a seasonal record. The number of paid working hours amounted to 93 million. In 1959, because of the recession, the figures were 470,000 employed and 88 million working hours. The stronger decrease of the number of working hours was due to the 45-hour week which at that time had been introduced in many industrial branches. But with the new boom, the number of industrially employed persons rose to a new high of 487,000 in March, 1960. At the same time, the number of working hours — 91 million — was considerably below the 1958 level.

AUSTRIAN WORKERS HAVE GAIN IN REAL INCOME

Take-home pay as well as real income increased for the Austrian worker in the more recent years, labor statistics indicate. Reports from 43 representative Vienna workers' households show that the average worker's income increased from 26,226 schillings in 1952 to 38,814 schillings in 1957. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) In the same period, the income of the average white collar worker increased from 23,875 schillings to 39,814 schillings. Taking into account the increase of prices during those years, the gain in real income still amounts to 40% for the worker and to 60% for the white collar worker.

A study of income increases in six European countries, undertaken by the West German Statistical Office, shows that Austria's workers were third behind West Germany and France.

AIR TRAFFIC RISES (LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY)

The Austrian Communications Ministry reported recently that during June, 1960, Austrian airports services 872 arrivals and 873 departures of scheduled, commercial flights. The

number of arriving passengers to 20,549, while transit passengers numbered 6,875.

A comparison with June, 1959, shows that the number of arriving and departing commercial aircraft decreased slightly (1959 — 891 and 890), but that the passenger roll increased considerably (1959 — 18,431, 17,535 and 4,573). One reason for the change is the use of larger planes, especially jets.

The ministry also reported a considerable increase in freight volume and mail cartage.

July, 1960, figures show that the increase is continuing in all sectors of commercial aviation.

NEWS FROM THE VIENNA STOCK EXCHANGE

Commissions on stock and bond transactions at the Vienna stock exchange were lowered last June 1. Total commissions, including sales taxes for certain transactions, for Austrian government bonds went down from 8.2% to 6.3%. Commission rates for mortgage and municipal bonds as well as railroad obligations decreased from 8.3% to 6.45%. On other bonds, commission went from 8.5% to 6.75%. On stocks, they were reduced from 13.75% to 10.7%.

Commissions charged to foreign banks for purchases of Austrian government bonds fell from 5.1% to 3.7%, for mortgage and municipal bonds and railroad obligations from 5.15% to 3.8% and for other bonds from 5.25% to 4%. On stock, they decreased from 8.375% to 6.3%.

New Subscription Offering

During the last week of May, 1960, the new 6½% interest-bearing loan of the Flood Damage Fund was offered for subscription. The face amount if the loan was 200 million schillings. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) The issue was fully subscribed on the first day of the offer.

Exchange Security Turnover

In the first quarter of 1960, the quoted value of securities sold at the Vienna Stock Exchange amounted to 198,720,000 schillings as against only 71,740,000 schillings in the first three months of 1959. Trading in 1960 was favoring shares which jumped from 31,850,000 schillings in the first quarter of 1959 to 116,390,000 schillings in the first quarter of 1960. Fixed interest securities also rose considerably in the trading value.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

This year's international children's summer village was opened early in August in the City of Vienna's youth hostel in Vorderhainbach. The village is under the auspices of Austrian Foreign Minister Bruno Kreisky and Vienna Mayor Jonas. Under the motto, "To embrace the World with Friendship," it will play host to 38 children from the U.S., Belgium, England, Finland, Holland, Israel, Mexico, Switzerland and Austria. The children will remain one month.

A LOT OF WOMEN MISS A LOT OF TV

An Austrian public opinion poll recently interviewed women of over 20 years on their TV habits. The results showed that 14% of those questioned looked at television programs more than once a week or even daily. These women included many who had a TV set in their own homes. Another

11% viewed TV at least once a week. But 45% of Austrian women never look at television because of lack of opportunity. Either they have no set available or they are not interested. Of the 55% who do see some of the TV programs, 39% watch them at the homes of neighbors or relatives, or in cafes or restaurants.

PRESS COMMENT

U.S. GIRLS BEMOANS THE LACK OF (HAND)KISSING IN VIENNA, THINKS U.S. MEN MIGHT WELL BE POLITER

(The following Associated Press dispatch from Vienna was carried in a number of American newspapers recently. Ed.)

European men are less polite towards ladies than are American men, and this applies especially to Central Europe, according to Marilyn Kortenhoven, twenty-two, of South Holland, Ill.

With fifty-seven other American students, she has been here for a month and in Europe for seven weeks attending Hope College, Holland, Mich., summer-school classes.

Marilyn said she loves Vienna but misses "the Continental courtesy" which she had heard so much about.

"Nobody here has kissed my hand, except one of our own boys, maybe for fun," the pretty blue-eyed student said.

Apart from her concern over the manners of the male population here (she says American city boys are not as polite as country males around her home town), Marilyn and the remaining fifty-seven students here are going through an extensive study period, for which they receive regular college credits.

Among the courses offered and lectured by English-speaking Austrian professors are art, history, Europe in the atomic age (the most popular course), European literature, Viennese drama, music literature and various German-language courses.

The director of the Vienna summer school, Dr. Paul G. Fried, said he believes Austrian instructors are best for visiting students in Europe because they expose them to a European view.

"It would be senseless to have the students come to Europe with an American instructor tagging along — they could get their education at home just as easily and at far less expense," he said.

"Many liberal arts colleges as Hope, have come to realize that a traveling study trip through Europe is only half a study trip — it's much like a movie, but more tiring. We, at Hope summer school, combine several weeks of traveling with six weeks of intensive study headed by an organized faculty staff with fully planned courses. This enables the students to make the utmost of their trips in pleasure and study," Dr. Fried said.

He disclosed that several more American Middle-West colleges are moving into Vienna—Wooster College, of Wooster, Ohio, and Oberlin College, of Oberlin, Ohio. They are planning to set up summer schools on a European travel-and-study system much the same as that of Hope.

AUSTRIA, TOO, WORRIES ABOUT THE DRUNK DRIVER

The United States is not the only country where traffic experts worry about the drunk driver. Traffic accidents have gone up by leaps and bounds throughout Europe and Austria has not been immune to death and injury on the road. Austrian authorities have been debating measures of traffic controls which, they hope, will stem the tide.

As in the United States where the question of just how much alcohol renders a driver incapable of properly and safely handling his vehicle has been and still is debated by local authorities and in the courts, Austria finds the answer to that question a difficult problem.

The Austrian parliament is now studying the problem and hopes to come up with a workable answer in the near future. Everybody seems agreed that in traffic accidents drivers suspected of having taken one too many ought to undergo a blood test to establish whether they had indulged too much. But just how much is too much?

Experts have figured out that a certain percentage of alcohol in the blood would render a driver incapable of driving safely. This certain percentage is relatively little but it varies with individual constitutions.

The experts told the lawmakers that a mean should be adopted and that average was very, very small. Austrian automobile associations agreed that a way must be found to draw the line somewhere. But they won't go along with the minimum proposed by the experts. They hold that that minimum would not permit drivers, at least certain drivers, to take a single drink. They argue that blood alcohol may result from eating certain fruits, from the use of certain medicines and even from inhaling certain air purifiers.

No decision has been taken yet, but increasing numbers of traffic accidents will force a decision in the near future. Meanwhile, Austrian authorities are thinking of other methods to stop highway killings and injuries. They are contemplating the introduction of speed limits, among other things.

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